



September 18, 2002

Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom

Bagram, Afghanistan

News briefs

(Compiled from
CNN.com)

Operative details al Qaeda's Asian expansion

MANILA, Philippines — A key al Qaeda operative has provided information that leads U.S. officials to believe that southeast Asia now has the highest concentration of al Qaeda members outside of Afghanistan and Pakistan. Information provided by Omar al-Faruq, a Kuwaiti citizen, also contributed to the U.S. government raising its terror threat level last week, authorities said. Al-Faruq, 31, was arrested June 5 by authorities in Indonesia, where he allegedly had been working to unite terrorist groups from several countries in southeast Asia. He was sent to the U.S.-held at Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan, where the CIA has been questioning him. Authorities say al-Faruq was sent to southeast Asia in 1995 by senior al Qaeda leader Abu Zubaydah, who is also now in U.S. custody.

See **BRIEFS**, Page 3

Marines help run SW Asia skyways



Sgt. Michael Archambault, approach controller, watches his radar screen for incoming flights with Cpl. Amy St. Clair at Karshi-Khanabad.

Story & photo by Spc.
Erica Leigh Foley
**28th Public Affairs
Detachment**

KARSHI-KHAN-ABAD, Uzbekistan — By land, air or sea, the Marines will be there to help with the mission, and that's just what they are doing at Karshi-Khanabad Air Base, Uzbekistan.

About 60 Marines are assigned to K2 in the Marine Air Control Squadron 4, from Okinawa and Iwakuni, Japan. Since they arrived in K2, they have implemented procedures to provide for the safe, expedient and orderly flow of aircraft.

"We provide all weather air traffic control service to Coalition aircraft," said Sgt. Maj. David Scott, noncom-

missioned officer in charge. "We provide flight plans, and separate and ensure safe movement of the aircraft along direct routes."

The squadron performs six primary functions in the accomplishment of their mission to include air traffic control officers, tower controllers, radar controllers, communications technicians and radar technicians.

"What we provide dramatically increases the level of flight safety, thereby ensuring more of our aircraft having successful missions," Scott said.

"We control all the aircraft coming in and out of K2," said Sgt. Michael Archambault, approach controller.

See **MARINE**, Page 2

Service members match wits in chess tourney

Story & photo by Sgt. Eric Barker
**300th Mobile Public Affairs
Detachment**

"Of chess it has been said that life is not long enough for it, but that is the fault of life, not chess." — Irving Chernev

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — An Afghan businessman was playing chess with his brother in his office when the Taliban caught them. The chessboard and pieces were immedi-



Service members compete in the first round of the chess tournament at Kandahar Air Field Sunday.

See **CHESS**, Page 2

MARINE, from Page 1

Part of his job is to sequence aircraft separation. If more than one aircraft wants to land or take off, he and his crew coordinate with not only other aircraft in the air, but with that tower, who coordinates with the local Uzbek air traffic controllers.

Radar lets the Marines see where an aircraft is within one tenth of a mile. Since radar plays an imperative role, technicians are on hand at all times.

"We make sure controllers have the gear to work with. We run tests

to make sure everything stays up and running," said Lance Cpl. Patrick McCorkell, air traffic control radar technician.

"Our job is to maintain the radar systems so the controllers can provide service to pilots. Ninety percent of our job, we know from experience and knowing how the machines work. For the other 10 percent, we have a technical manual," said Staff Sgt. John Baldwin, radar technician.

"We have turned K2 into a major functioning runway," said Staff Sgt. Greg Teeuwen, air traffic

controller. "We bring in multi-million dollar aircraft along with supplies, so there are strict air traffic control procedures."

He describes the air traffic control job as running the on and off ramps of the air-highways. The controllers coordinate with the other planes to slow down or speed up in order to make room for a "newcomer" on the "road."

In addition, they coordinate with the host nation to let them know that a friendly aircraft has entered the skyway, making sure the aircraft isn't scrambled.

"This is still a war zone

and we keep the Uzbeks informed of when an airplane goes up so they don't think it's an enemy," Teeuwen said.

He admits it sounds like an easy job, until more than one aircraft is involved. The controllers make an imaginary "race track" around the airbase for the aircraft. The runway can be made smaller or bigger, depending on how much time is needed between landings.

One of the biggest challenges hasn't had anything to do with the aircraft, but more with the rules and regulations.

"The Uzbek air traffic

controllers have a different set of rules than the U.S.," said Capt. Patricia De Young, commander.

Each side has made compromises when it comes to meeting on common ground. She said both sections meet and talk about what is going to be done then an agreement is written. That way either section can look back and check on the current rules, since they are continually being updated.

She also said they are continually gaining each others confidence, creating a growing relationship.

CHESS, from Page 1

ately burned and the brothers were placed in jail for two days, said Haji Shirullah, a Kabul businessman.

According to Taliban beliefs, chess was a form of gambling and distracted people from praying. For five years, playing chess was illegal in Afghanistan. Ironically, the country that liberated Afghanistan from the Taliban, held a chess tournament at Kandahar Air Field, Sunday.

"I saw a lot of people playing chess around the camp and I thought it would be great to have a tournament," said Spc. Kenneth Nguyen, tournament organizer and chess player. "This is the first time I organized something like this. I am very happy with the turnout."

Nguyen is a transportation coordinator with the 297th Transportation Company, Fort Hood, Texas.

Twenty-four service-members showed up for the tournament located in the terminal conference room.

"I needed an atmosphere that was quiet and comfortable. I wanted a place conducive to chess playing.

The terminal conference room was a perfect fit," Nguyen said as he took down scores.

He said one of the main problems in organizing the event was getting enough chessboards.

"I was short on boards and you can't play chess without the boards. So the (Morale, Welfare and Recreation) center was very helpful. They let me sign for as many chessboards as I needed," Nguyen said.

The rules had to be slightly altered from normal tournament play. There was a 40-move, 30-minute time limit per game. Each player plays two games. The top two from each bracket moves on to the next round, Nguyen said.

"The rules were no problem," said Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Ronald P. Santos, a hospital corpsman with the Marine Air Control Squadron, Okinawa, Japan. "My uncle taught me to play when I was 10 years old. This is my first time participating in a tournament and I won my first two games."

The aim of the game is to win by trapping your opponent's king. Players take turns moving

one piece at a time attacking their opponent's position, while defending their own.

"Playing chess tells me a lot about the person I am playing. Whether they are a hasty thinker or if they take their time and contemplate things in their life," said Pfc. Andrew Himes, cable systems installer and maintainer, 82nd Signal Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C.

The chess pieces are representations of a medieval army. Tournaments began as a way for men to practice for war, the goal of which is to hunt down and checkmate your opponent's king.

"It's become a lost art in this day of video games and computers," professed Himes. "It's a thinking man's game."

The tournament was projected to be a one-day event, but due to the high turnout, it has been expanded to three Sundays.

"I played in (chess) tournaments in Los Angeles with about 400 people. They are usually a four-day event. We weren't able to do that here because of time restraints," said Nguyen.



Photo by Sgt. Eric Barker, 300th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment
Spc. Kenneth Nguyen contemplates possible moves at the chess tournament.

With the success of the tournament, Nguyen has hopes of a future tournament with the Romanian soldiers and, possibly, a Kandahar Chess Club, where chess can be played without the threat of being shut down by the Taliban.

Checkmate, U.S.!



Happy 50th USAF

The Department of the Air Force, an agency of the Department of Defense, was established on September 18, 1947, pursuant to provisions of the National Security Act of the previous July 26. On September 26, 1947, by order of the Secretary of Defense, personnel of the Army Air Forces (AAF) were transferred from the Department of the Army (formerly the War Department) to the Department of the Air Force and established as the United States Air Force (USAF).

BRIEFS, from Page 1

N. Korea admits to Japanese kidnappings

PYONGYANG, North Korea — In a startling admission, North Korean leader Kim Jong Il has ended years of denials by confirming North Korean spies kidnapped Japanese citizens decades ago and that some were still alive. The confession paved the way for a resumption of long-stalled normalization talks between Tokyo and Pyongyang, set for October, after a groundbreaking summit between Kim and Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi Tuesday. In a joint statement after the meeting in Pyongyang—the first time a Japanese leader has visited the north—Kim also agreed to extend North Korea's moratorium on missile tests beyond a 2003 deadline.

Contingent of Marines heading to Kuwait

WASHINGTON — Some 4,000 U.S. Marines will soon be in Kuwait to participate in training exercises, according to a senior Pentagon official. The Marines will be participating in an ongoing training exercise with the Kuwaiti armed forces known as "Operation Desert Spring." The operation is a joint U.S.-Kuwait military exercise ongoing since the end of the Gulf War continually training forces for the defense of Kuwait. Diplomatic sources told Reuters Monday the head of the U.S. forces in the wider region, Army Gen. Tommy Franks, is due in Kuwait Wednesday where troops are conducting annual exercises as part of Desert Spring close to Iraq's border. He will head a conference of Central Command commanders, including those in Afghanistan and the Gulf area. But the sources played down the significance of the talks after Washington warned Baghdad of military action if it failed to meet United Nations resolutions and halt its alleged production in arms of mass destruction. Iraq denies the charge.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Thursday</i>
Bagram:	Mostly cloudy H: 88F L: 57F	Rain H: 91F L: 62F
Kandahar:	Haze H: 99F L: 59F	Dusty H: 97F L: 57F
Kabul:	Mostly cloudy H: 88F L: 57F	Rain H: 91F L: 62F
Uzbekistan:	Sunny H: 88F L: 52F	Sunny H: 87F L: 52F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

FREEDOM WATCH

Freedom Watch falls under the supervision of the Combined Joint Task Force - 180.

- ❖ CJTF - 180 Commanding General — Lt. Gen. Dan McNeill
- ❖ CJTF - 180 Command Sergeant Major — Command Sgt. Maj. Steven R. England
- ❖ Public Affairs Officer — Col. Roger King
- ❖ Public Affairs Sergeant Major — Sgt. Maj. C.J. Costello

Freedom Watch, an Army newspaper publication, is produced by the 28th Public Affairs Detachment at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan.

- ❖ Commander — Capt. Timothy Beninato
- ❖ NCOIC — Staff Sgt. Rhonda M. Lawson
- ❖ Editor — Sgt. Reeba Critser
- ❖ Sports Editor — Spc. Alfredo Jimenez Jr.
- ❖ Journalists — Sgt. Jason Allgood, Spc. Erica Leigh Foley, Pfc. Nathan Akridge and Pfc. Eleazar Craig.

In accordance with AR 360-1, this Army newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military overseas. Contents of *Freedom Watch* are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army.

All submissions are subject to editing for size and content by the 28th Public Affairs Detachment, located in Motel 6, CJTF - 180, Bagram Air Base.

Visit the CENTCOM Website to see the latest editions of *Freedom Watch* at www.centcom.mil/operations/CJTF%20180/cjtf180.htm

To be added to the daily distribution list, e-mail reeba.critser@us.army.mil



COALITION SPORTSZONE

The Day in Sports

(Compiled from *ESPN.com*)

College football: Will Tech get wrecked?

Virginia Tech's running game has yet to be stopped. Texas A&M's defense excels in stopping the run. Something has to give. Lee Suggs and Kevin Jones — the RB duo nicknamed "The Untouchables" — lead No. 7 Virginia Tech against No. 21 Texas A&M and its Wrecking Crew defense — which hasn't allowed a 100-yard rusher in over two years — on Saturday.

Soccer: Sizzling start

Real Madrid kicked off its new Champions League campaign in fantastic fashion with a confident 3-0 road victory against Roma on Tuesday. The opening goal came on a classic counterattack that was started by Luis Figo and finished off by Guti in the 41st minute. Raul registered Real's second with a 56th-minute blast from 20 yards and Guti's fine solo effort in the 74th minute put the finishing touch on a dominating win.

Tennis: Doubling up

Serena Williams normally plays doubles with her sister. But with Venus taking a break, Serena found another partner with more than a bit of doubles experience: Martina Navratilova. Serena and Navratilova teamed up in Toyko and won their first match, defeating Conchita Martinez and Nicole Pratt 6-1, 4-6, 6-3 on Tuesday.

Women's college basketball: Duke already dominating

The 2002-03 season doesn't tip off for a couple of months, but the preseason polls are already surfacing. So far, at least one publication has given Duke the top nod, with Tennessee ringing in at No. 2. Freshman Tye'sha Fluker hopes to stir things up in the paint for the Lady Vols.

Horse racing: Vindication victorious

Pure Prize may have been the winner of the richest race on Kentucky Cup Day — the \$400,000 Classic — but the star of the show was yet another flashy 2-year-old from the barn of trainer Bob Baffert, Vindication. The son of Seattle Slew, who Baffert has compared to 2001 Horse of the Year Point Given, overcame trouble to win the \$100,000 Juvenile by six lengths. Baffert also won the \$100,000 Juvenile Fillies with Atlantic Ocean. Mike Smith was aboard both of the Baffert juvenile winners as well as Pure Prize in the Classic.

Boxing: One more golden moment

Oscar De La Hoya won his grudge match with Fernando Vargas on Saturday, proving himself the world's best 154-pounder. The L.A.-area twosome duelled for nearly 11 rounds before referee Joe Cortez stopped it at 1:48 of the 11th with De La Hoya pounding Vargas against the ropes. All Vargas' trash talk did was bring out the absolute best in De La Hoya.

WNBA: Making their point

The U.S. women's team still has not broken a sweat at the World Championships. The U.S. advanced to the second round on Monday, routing Lithuania 105-48. The average margin of victory for the U.S. in the three first-round games was 44 points. Sheryl Swoopes, of the Comets, led the way against Lithuania with 20 points, and Lisa Leslie, of the Sparks, added 15.

2002 Major League standings

American League East				GB
N.Y. Yankees	94-56	.627	-	
Boston	86-65	.570	8.5	
Toronto	69-82	.457	25.5	
American League Central				GB
x-Minnesota	88-63	.583	-	
Chicago (AL)	75-76	.497	13	
Cleveland	67-85	.441	21.5	
American League West				GB
Anaheim	94-56	.627	-	
Oakland	94-56	.627	-	
Seattle	86-64	.573	8	
National League East				GB
x-Atlanta	95-54	.638	-	
Montreal	75-76	.497	21	
Philadelphia	74-77	.490	22	
National League Central				GB
St. Louis	86-63	.577	-	
Houston	80-71	.530	7	
Cincinnati	74-77	.490	13	
National League West				GB
Arizona	92-57	.617	-	
San Francisco	85-65	.567	7.5	
Los Angeles	85-65	.567	7.5	

x- Clinched division

Tuesday's scores

Baltimore 10-4 Toronto
 Pittsburgh 11-3 Cincinnati
 Boston 4-2 Cleveland
 Montreal 8-5 Florida
 Minnesota 7-4 Detroit
 N.Y. Mets 3-1 Chicago Cubs
 Tampa Bay 9-7 N.Y. Yankees
 Atlanta 2-1 Philadelphia
 Chicago Sox 6-1 Kansas City
 Milwaukee 5-4 Houston



W
I
L
D

C
A
R
D

NL

1. Los Angeles .567
2. San Francisco .567
3. Houston .530
4. Montreal .497
5. Cincinnati .490
6. Philadelphia .490

AL

- *-1. Anaheim .627
 - *-1. Oakland .627
 3. Seattle .573
 4. Boston .570
 5. Chicago Sox .493
 6. Texas .460
- *- Division leader

NFL Passing leaders

NFL QB rating		NFL yards	
1. J. Fielder, MIA	123.8	1. D. Bledsoe, BUF	734
2. K. Holcomb, CLE	111.0	2. K. Collins, NYF	649
3. T. Brady, NE	105.9	3. R. Gannon, OAK	617
4. R. Peete, CAR	105.5	4. K. Warner, STL	581
5. M. Hasselbeck, SEA	103.0	5. T. Brady, NE	563



NFL TD passes

1. T. Brady, NE	5
2. J. Fiedler, MIA	5
3. K. Holcomb, CLE	5
4. D. McNabb, PHI	5
5. B. Griese, DEN	4

College football standings

ACC standings

Florida State	3-0
N.C. State	4-0

Big 12 standings

Iowa	3-1
Oklahoma	3-0

Big East standings

Miami	3-0
Virginia Tech	3-0

Big Ten standings

Wisconsin	4-0
Minnesota	3-0

Conf. USA standings

Southern Miss	3-0
Cincinnati	1-1

IA Independent standings

Notre Dame	3-0
South Florida	2-1

Mid- Am. standings

Kent State	2-1
Marshall	1-1

Mtn. West standings

Air Force	2-0
Colorado State	3-1

Pacific-10 standings

California	3-0
Oregon State	3-0

SEC standings

Georgia	2-0
Kentucky	2-1

Sun Belt standings

North Texas	1-2
Arkansas State	1-3

WAC standings

Louisiana Tech.	2-1
Boise State	2-1



By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support